



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 500
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2466

970373
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NOV 19 1999

Ref: 8EPR-EP

Bert Kulesza, Forest Supervisor
Ashley National Forest
355 North Vernal Ave.
Vernal, Utah 84078

Re: Western Uinta Basin Oil and
Gas Leasing, Final
Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Kulesza:

The Region VIII office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the referenced Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The FEIS section entitled Western Uinta Basin Oil and Gas Leasing, Questions and Answers, is very well done and provides a concise response. Based on the disclosures of impacts and implementation of appropriate stipulations to those specified lands available for lease, the EPA believes the preferred alternative, Alternative 3, as modified, can be implemented without significant impacts to the environment.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the FEIS. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Hammer of my staff at (303) 312-6563.

Sincerely,

Carol L. Campbell

Carol L. Campbell, Director
Ecosystems Protection Program

cc: Elaine Suriano, OFA EPA-HQ



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